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## CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

February 29, 1988

**DETERMINATION OF UNIFORM PERCENTAGE NECESSARY TO REDUCE CERTAIN APPROPRIATIONS—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 118**

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report, which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with section 512 of the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1988, included in Public Law 100-202, I herewith transmit a report specifying my determination of the uniform percentage necessary to reduce outlays for travel, transportation, and subsistence by \$23.6 million in accounts within this appropriations act in Fiscal Year 1988. Federal agencies have been instructed to make the required reductions.

RONALD REAGAN.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 29, 1988.

**MEASURES REFERRED**

The following bill, which was introduced on February 25, 1988, and ordered held at the desk until the close of business on today, February 29, 1988, was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

S. 2091. A bill to protect the ground water resources of the United States; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

The amendment proposed by Mr. DURENBERGER on February 25, 1988, to the bill S. 2091, and subsequently also ordered held at the desk until the close of business on today, February 29, 1988, was ordered referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MELCHER, from the Special Committee on Aging:

Special report entitled "Developments in Aging, 1987, Volume 1" (Rept. No. 100-291).

By Mr. JOHNSTON, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

S. 854. A bill entitled the "Nevada-Florida Land Exchange Authorization Act of 1987" (Rept. No. 100-292).

By Mr. BYRD (for Mr. BIRN), from the Committee on the Judiciary, with amendment:

S. 1630. A bill to provide for retirement and survivors' annuities for bankruptcy judges and magistrates, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 100-293).

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS**

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BYRD (for Mr. CRANSTON, for himself and Mr. MURKOWSKI):

S. 2106. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend for 4 years the authority of the Veterans' Administration to contract for drug and alcohol treatment and rehabilitation services in halfway houses and other certain community-based facilities; to the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

By Mr. BOND (for himself and Mr. HEFLIN):

S. 2106. A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to require the Secretary of Agriculture to use multiyear set-asides to establish wildlife habitats and feeding areas; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. KASSEBAUM (for herself and Mr. DOLE):

S. 2107. A bill to authorize the construction by the Secretary of Agriculture of a plant science research and education facility at Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BRADLEY (for himself and Mr. MOYNIHAN):

S. 2108. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct the Reclamation Groundwater Management and Technical Assistance Study; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself and Mr. CRANSTON):

S. 2109. A bill to amend Title 18, United States Code, to protect the civil rights of individuals from discrimination on the basis of affectional or sexual orientation; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. METZENBAUM:

S. 2110. A bill to provide access to check cashing services; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. HATFIELD:

S. 2111. A bill to amend the patent law, title 35, United States Code, to prohibit the patenting of genetically altered or modified animals; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SYMMS (for himself, Mr. BURDICK, Mr. DIXON, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. McCLELLAND and Mr. THURMOND):

S.J. Res. 266. A joint resolution to designate the week beginning June 12, 1988, as "National Scleroderma Awareness Week"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. DURENBERGER, Mr. KERRY, Mr. PELL, Mr. DODD, Mr. D'AMATO and Mr. CRANSTON):

S.J. Res. 267. A joint resolution in support of democracy in Panama; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

**SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS**

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. BYRD (for himself, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. PELL, Mr. DOLE, Mr. HUMPHREY, Mr. DECONCINI, Mr. SYMMS, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. WALLON, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. DIXON and Mr. DODD):

S. Res. 386. A resolution to express the sense of the Senate on United States policy toward Afghanistan, especially toward the possibility of a Soviet troop withdrawal; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. QUAYLE, Mr. MATSUNAGA and Mr. HEINZ):

S. Res. 387. A resolution to express the gratitude of the Senate for the efforts and achievements of the United States Winter Olympics Team; considered and agreed to.

**STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS**

By Mr. BYRD (for Mr. CRANSTON, for himself and Mr. MURKOWSKI):

S. 2105. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend for 4 fiscal years the authority of the Veterans' Administration to contract for drug and alcohol treatment and rehabilitation services in halfway houses and other certain community-based facilities; referred to the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

VETERANS' ALCOHOL AND DRUG TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION IN COMMUNITY-BASED FACILITIES

Mr. CRANSTON, Mr. President, as Chairman of the Committee on Veterans Affairs, I am very pleased to introduce, along with my friend from Alaska (Mr. Murkowski), the ranking minority member of the committee, legislation to extend for 4 years, through September 30, 1992, the VA's present discretionary authority in section 620A of title 38, United States Code, to contract with halfway houses and other community-based facilities for the treatment and rehabilitation of veterans with alcohol or drug abuse or dependence disabilities.

Mr. President, according to the VA, approximately 32,000 veterans have been placed in community-based contract programs following detoxification in VA medical centers since the program began in 1980. More than 90 VA medical centers—6 in California—have contracts with nearly 400 non-VA community-based program—61 in California. The VA anticipates placing an average of 7,500 veterans each year in community halfway houses during the next 5 years.

Mr. President, the contract program offers a valuable alternative for treating certain veterans with chemical dependencies who otherwise would likely return to their homes and communities and resume drug and alcohol use. In order for former addicts to stay sober or clean, it is critical that they receive positive reinforcement after breaking the physical addiction to alcohol or drugs. Too often, veterans who don't have families or other support systems return to their old habits, including drug or alcohol use. Long-term counseling and followup are necessary to break the cycle. Halfway houses and other community-based treatment centers provide that type of intervention. They enable veterans to integrate back into their communities with the needed assistance, through the development of self help and job skills and participation in Alcoholics Anonymous and other support services, while overcoming their chemical dependencies.

Halfway houses are cost-effective. A VA May 1984 report analyzing the first 3 years of the program found that the expenditures associated with relapse-related treatment following detoxification was on an average \$346

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